

THE DAILY CRITIC
ESTABLISHED AUGUST, 1868.
Office, 511 NINTH STREET, CRITIC BUILDING
Saturday, May 22, 1880.

SOCIAL GOSSIP.

The Literary Society was entertained last Saturday evening by Doctor Toner at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Kauffman, they having let their home for the occasion as the Doctor is a bachelor and his quarters are too limited to entertain so large a company. Gen. Garfield presided over the meeting with his accustomed dignity, and the discussion, continued from several weeks before, was carried on with spirit and force until a late hour, when the guests were invited to the dining room where a collation was served amidst flowers and soft lights; then came music, then coffee, for it was the last meeting of the season and a Summer time may be as narrow as life or as wide as death; it is so full of "to-morrow's" that every one was grateful to the Doctor for giving them so pleasant a "yesterday" to remember.

Mrs. Bayard and her boy of bright daughters left on Thursday for their Delaware home, where they will be absent shortly by the Senator.

Lieut. and Mrs. Thacker returned a few days since from Philadelphia, where they stopped en route for home to visit his family.

Mrs. Myer gave the third and last of her garden parties on Monday afternoon; it differed in no respect from its predecessors, for the weather was as fair, the hostess and her young assistants were as attentive to the enjoyment of their guests, the arrangements were as perfect and as artistic, and the list of guests, although including none of those present at the first two entertainments, was made up of other equally agreeable and well known members of our society. The plan adopted by Mrs. Myer solves the problem of how to entertain a very large circle of friends with comfort and pleasure to both hostess and guests. "Give two or three parties, to each of which invite a different set." This cancels all debts, secures acquaintance to every one and transforms social duty into a delightful series of gatherings, instead of one horrid crush, where temper and toilettes are reduced to tatters and where Pleasure is the one thing unattainable.

Everything in the way of social engagements gave way on Wednesday to the interest felt in the boat race, it even "paled to ineffectual fires" the race track, and every one who was not making up a party, was included in one to witness the contest. Captain Patterson had a delightful company assembled on the deck of his steam tug; the President, the Cabinet, and several of the foreign Ministers, were entertained on another; the officers from the Navy Yard, with their families and friends, were on another, which also towed several boats from the Arrow, Passaic, and other vessels at anchor off the Yard; Mr. Albert Ray entertained a number of friends on a private stand he had erected near the bridge; twenty or thirty favored friends were admitted to the Georgetown College, and from the turrets of the new building witnessed the entire scene; and Admiral Rogers entertained nearly all the Navy Circle at the Observatory, he had awnings stretched and every comfort provided, and during the long delay the shade of the trees was most grateful. The river with its thousand beautiful effects danced with shining silver feet on, and on, and on; sail boats skimmed like gulls over the gleaming surface; the great steamers lashed their labored breathing in face of the evening's repose; tiny boats gay with colored bunting shot about like dragon flies and the crimson sun resigned his sceptre into the hands of the pale moon that looked down impartially on the Canadian and his opponent. The race! Too little was done to say anything about it, and too much has been told of attendant circumstances to make repetition of interest, but the scene was one of great novelty to our people, and the evening was filled with a beauty so exquisite that it will be remembered by all who witnessed it.

The many friends of General Zettin sympathize deeply with him and his family in their sudden great trouble; the alarming illness, with which he is stricken, threatens at any moment to terminate the life devoted so entirely to the service of his country and his friends.

Miss Lovell, the piquante granddaughter of the Mexican hero, General Quitman, paid a flying visit to the city this week; but she was obliged to return to Baltimore while the "word of welcome was still warm on the lip."

Miss Jennie Buck, so pleasantly remembered here, is visiting her relatives on C street.

The "Cercle Francais" gave a charming dramatic entertainment at their rooms in the Corcoran Building last night. The witty mousquetaire rendered was the "Cercle des Precieuses Ridicules," and when we say that among those who took part were Mr. Jefferson and Miss Guillaume, it is needless to add that the evening was a delightful success.

General and Mrs. Garfield, with their family, leave on Tuesday for their beautiful country home.

Mrs. Hodgson Burnett will return in a few days from her Northern trip; she has gained in health, and returns to work with renewed vigor.

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